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DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE
Committee on Imagery Requirements and Exploitation

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DCI/ICS 82-4523
10 March 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: COMIREX Members and Consultants

SUBJECT: Transfer of ESSEG from EXRAND to IPS (U)

Attached for your review is a draft paper addressing the question of ESSEG's organizational relationship within the COMIREX structure. This issue is tentatively scheduled for discussion at the 17 March COMIREX meeting. (U)

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Executive Secretary

Attachment: a/s

DISTRIBUTION: COM26 (ESSEG org)

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MEMORANDUM FOR: COMIREX Members and Consultants

SUBJECT: Transfer of ESSEG from EXRAND to IPS (U)

1. For the past few months the COMIREX has been in the process of restructuring itself along clearly functional lines. The Operations Subcommittee (OPS) has been established (with its subordinate Standing Requirements and Current Requirements Working Groups--SRWG and CRWG) as a Community focal point for near-term operational planning and current operations. The Imagery Planning Subcommittee (IPS) has been established (with its Advanced Systems and Exploitation Programs Working Groups--ASWG and EPWG--and the CAMS II Task Force) to provide a Community forum for longer-term planning and requirements development for imagery collection, exploitation, and reporting systems. Most recently the Exploitation Research and Development Subcommittee (EXRAND) has been reaffirmed and its mission focused on technology development issues. (S)

2. As you are aware, the EXRAND Softcopy Exploitation Working Group (ESSEG) was originally established under EXRAND to provide a Community input to softcopy exploitation technology development activities. In the years since ESSEG's original charter was drawn up, softcopy exploitation technology has progressed beyond the technology development/demonstration stage. The Community now needs a planning forum for the integration of softcopy exploitation technology into exploitation system concepts, and for the definition of functional requirements for softcopy exploitation equipments. It appears

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that the ESSEG could, and should, be redirected from its original technology development role to become the Community's softcopy exploitation planning and requirements definition forum; however, such a redirection of the ESSEG mission would make its subordination to the EXRAND inappropriate, in that its new mission would be more closely allied to the IPS planning and requirements definition functions than to the EXRAND's technology development role. (C)

3. RECOMMENDATION. In light of the above considerations, and in order to take full advantage of the expertise extant in the present ESSEG, it is recommended that the ESSEG be transferred from the Exploitation Research and Development Subcommittee to the Imagery Planning Subcommittee of the COMIREX. It is further recommended that the ESSEG be renamed the "Softcopy Exploitation (Systems) Working Group (SESWG)." (U)

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